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| Submitter: | Amy Lancaster | Date | 10/27/09 |
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| **TASK #5 – Assigned to Mark Heppler** | | | |
| ISSUE/PROBLEM: *Describe your issue/s in no more than 2 paragraphs* | | | |
| Miles City Dispatch has been pursuing a solution for the loss of the Initial Attack Management System (IAMS)program and some of its key functionalities. We discussed this issue with other personnel at the dispatch level, as well as the geographical and national levels, and received favorable comments for the old IAMS program. As noted in Julie Stewart's email (dated 7/30/09), dispatch centers across the nation along with FAA offices are utilizing an unsupported version of IAMS. No other programs have been designed with the IAMS functionalities to date.  We have initiated the process and now need a larger entity to contiue this endeavor to the national level, whether it be resurrecting the IAMS program or adding IAMS components to current dispatch operating systems. Bottom line, we want our current systems to work for us, rather than us working for ALL the systems.  Current operating systems (i.e. WildCad, Automated Flight Following [AFF], National Interagency Airspace website, ROSS, etc.)do not incorporate features from the old IAMS program. Some key IAMS Components are as follows:  - Plotting a fire point/incident and determining the bearing and distance from an airport/VOR to that specified point/incident. This makes filling out the Aircraft Dispatch Form a snap.  - Entering a VOR, bearing and distance to determine an approximate fire location in lat/long or legal description. This is especially handy when NRCC calls with FAA airline smoke reports. (Note: This capabililty exists in WildCad but is NOT available in AFF.)  - Conversion Tool for converting various formats of latitiudes and longitudes and legals, which is quicker than our current ArcMap program and eliminates the need to open an additional website. (Note: This capability exists in WildCad but is NOT available in AFF.)  - Establishing waypoints and flight routes for reconnaisance flights. Not all dispatch centers use waypoints, but our management prefers this method.  - Printing capabilities for maps and waypoints. | | | |
| HISTORY**/**BACKGROUND: *Describe the history associated with the issue/s (1 page or less)* | | | |
| In 2006 funding for the IAMS program was no longer supported by entities in the National Office; therefore, IAMS was to be removed from all agency computers due to the lack of military updates in the program. Dispatch centers were given a limited opportunity to comment on the demise of the IAMS program but were optimistic that the new AFF program would fulfill the aviation needs of dispatchers. To date the AFF program has not met all the aviation dispatch needs. Fortunately, many agencies did not remove the program and continue to use it for aviation purposes, not necessarily airspace deconfliction. | | | |
| POLICY: *Describe the policy or regulation that is relevant to your issue/s. If no policy or regulation is associated with your issue, just write not applicable (N/A).* | | | |
| Not Applicable | | | |
| FACTORS AFFECTING THE ISSUE: *Discuss key factors that should be taken into account when addressing the issues.* | | | |
| - Funding to upgrade any current operating systems may be an issue.  - Not all dispatch centers have adopted the WildCad program in which some of the missing IAMS components exist; therefore, it is important that AFF be upgraded as well. | | | |
| RECOMMENDATIONS/SOLUTIONS: *Identify your recommendations or solutions to the issue/s you have described* | | | |
| We realize that IAMS may not be resurrected but know that it is worth our time and effort to pursue additional capabilities in our current operating systems. We have made several contacts to the following program leads:  - WildCad - Brian Booher of Bighorn Information Systems has been contacted by Jeff Rader. WildCad is in an ongoing developmental stage and is looking for feedback from the users. We have provided such feedback, but have not heard of any upcoming changes.  - AFF - Bob Roth is aware of our inquiry but has not formally been contacted by our organzation.  - National Interagency Airspace website - Ben Hinkle is aware of our inquiry but has not formally been contacted by our organization.  In addition, other GACC's and dispatch centers need to support this venture. This task may need to be proposed to a representative at the national level. | | | |
| TASK ORDERS TO DISPATCH STEERING COMMITTEE: *The Northern Rockies Dispatch Steering Committee will prioritize the task order based on the information* *provided on this form. NRDSC may request additional input.* | | | |
| Thanks for your time and support!!  10/18/10 Hello everyone. I submitted a white paper to Gary and Kathy on #7 for them to bring up at the National Coordinator's Meeting. I have not heard back about what happened at the meeting. Amy is submitting some possible changes through Kit and WILDCAD at this time. So that's where I am with #7.  12/15/10 Gary Boyd made a presentation at the National Coordinators Meeting of the White Paper that he and myself put together. This created some discussion and it was decided that there was higher priority projects and / or issues that needed to be worked on. So basically this issue(s) were tabled with no real definate decision or timetable for conclusion. In other words work with what you have now.  1/24/11 Sent to Kim Thomas @ NRCC. | | | |
| STATUS: *For NRDSC to update on website.* | | | |
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